Grants to Maulana Azad Foundation

1836. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds provided to the Maulana Azad Foundation has been as minority institution since its inception;

(b) the list of all the institutions which have been given such grants; and

(c) whether there is a proposal to increase the grants and make the functioning of the foundation more transparent?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF) is a voluntary, non-political, non-profit making society to formulate and implement educational schemes for the benefit of weaker sections in general and educationally backward minorities in particular. The Government has provided Rs. 86.51 crores to the Foundation since its inception.

(b) The Government is also providing funds to Central Wakf Council. There is no other such institution funded by the Government.

(c) There is no proposal to increase the grant to MAEF in this financial year. As per the Memorandum of Association and provisions of schemes of the foundation, it is the Governing/General Body of the Foundation which is responsible for its functioning.

Shifting of TV Tower

†1837. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any request in 2003 from the Pradhans of Gram Panchayats of Chadhgaon Tehsil of Shimla district in Himachal Pradesh to shift TV Tower;

(b) if so, the reasons for not shifting the said TV Tower, so far; and

(c) by when Government propose to shift the TV Tower from Chadhgaon to Sundarali?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.